

CAMDEN, S. C., AUGUST 14, 1890.

**HON. J. J. HEMPHILL.**

After uninterrupted service since Congress convened in December, our faithful and able Representative came home last week for a brief holiday, and was thus enabled to be present at the summer meeting of the State Agricultural Society at Rock Hill, which was held on the 6th inst.

We saw where he had been requested by a number of members of the Alliance to give them his views on the several subjects now under discussion and regarded as essential in one who seeks to represent them in Congress, and it is reported he gave them satisfactory replies. We trust this is correct, for we believe the Fifth District can do better than to return him as his own successor. His experience is so great, his ability so pronounced, and the stand he has taken so recognized as to warrant the conclusion that no man at this exigency in our Federal relations could begin to take his place or do equal justice to the State and the District.

A great many people have no conception of the duties of a member of Congress, or the difficulties which beset the pathway of a new member, nor of how long it takes to gain a footing whereby he can be of service. A knowledge of the rules which govern the House, and the routine work entailed, require experience, and as the work of the House is done by committees it takes a long time to understand their working or acquire a reputation which entitles a member to a place on the important ones. All of these requisites Mr. Hemphill possesses, and is worth more to his constituency right now, when such measures as the Tariff and Force bills are on the tops, than a dozen new members.

We believe in the good old Democratic doctrine of rotation in office as a rule, but there are exceptions to all rules, and his case is one of them. State politics should not enter into it. He has been absent during the exciting campaign through which we have passed, and has kept himself aloof from any participation in it, and there can consequently be no possible prejudice against him on the score of favoring or opposing any particular candidate for Governor. While as to the Farmers' Movement he is in favor of any changes or reforms which will conduce to their benefit, and is fully in accord with all possible advantage which the movement can give them.

**GEORGIA POLITICS.**

Our neighbor across the Savannah has been very much stirred up lately, and politics have been running high. There has not been the excitement to the square inch we have had, and a refreshing absence of personal antagonism and abuse, but the caudillo has been seething and boiling all the time.

Our farmer friends there have had matters pretty much their own way, and while conservative have been very positive and assertive. They nominated W. J. Northen, a farmer, for Governor last week, and in three-fourths of the Congressional districts have done likewise. Some first rate men, who have served their constituents in Congress long and faithfully, have been superseded by new ones, and we fear the experiment may prove in some instances disastrous.

But there seems to a restlessness and desire for change in the Empire State of the South, as well as in South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas, and what the outcome of it is to be no one can foretell, nor how far it will be carried into the great National struggle of 1892.

There seems to be no disposition with our neighbor to run this excursive line into county office, and we command her for it. County officers should be elected on their merits exclusive of State officers or Congressional Representatives, and the best men selected for them, and this principle should hold too in case of members of the Legislature.

**THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION.**

This influential paper, to which the brilliant and lamented Grady, by his ability and character imparted a national reputation, has been for some weeks the subject of much ridicule and ridicule for its peculiar way of boycotting the North as a species of absurd, unwarrantable and malignant. It is a scheme as impossible to carry into execution as would be suicidal for us to attempt.

The idea of the Constitution is that if this iniquitous bill is passed, the South should cease to trade with the North until it is repealed. The very idea is too far-fetched to give a sensible man a moment's consideration, and we cannot refrain from expressing our surprise at such a suggestion even. Poor as we are as a people, and struggling to get on the upward grade of material prosperity, to thus cut our nose to spite the North would be the very acme of unwise dom and folly.

The only public man of any note who has even indirectly approved and endorsed it is Governor Gordon of Georgia, and even he now sees the folly of it. We have real admiration for Gordon's gallantry, and great faith in his patriotism, but he is very sensational, and the suggestion of this scheme he evidently thought would be eagerly hailed by our people. He is not a wise adviser, as he goes off half-cocked to the west, and, as the saying is, loves "to fly up the creek" too much. He is, however, a shrewd politician, and manages to keep himself prominently before his people, and being a daring man maintains his hold in a wonderful manner. But behind the Constitution are fearfully wrong in this boycott scheme. We are gratified to believe the Lodge bill is not likely to be passed.

**GUR STATE DEPT.**

The net debt of the State is \$6,433,456,68, which includes our total liability. This is a small indebtedness compared to the assessed valuation of property, to wit, over \$10,000,000; and the amount of taxation required to pay the interest, \$383,456, at 6 per cent., is only 24 mills. Since the settlement of the debt question in 1883 our bonds have been at par, and often over it. The credit of the State is number one, and it is subject of congratulation. Our bond maturing in 1893, and an effort will be made to fund them at 4 or 4½ per cent. interest, and we have apprehension as to its being successfully accomplished.

Our people are honest, and have too much State pride to even squat at repudiation. There has been some talk of difficulty being experienced, if Tillman is Governor, of successfully funding the debt.—This is to attribute to him complete control of the Legislature and an indisposition on his part to fund it. We have seen nothing in his extract to warrant any charge of the latter, and as to his controlling the Legislature, if he should be disposed to give a black eye to our credit, we do not believe he could do it. A Governor, if the funding should take place during his administration, he would naturally be anxious to make it a success. The welfare of the State is paramount to the personality of any man, if he should be disposed to obstruct it, and when the time comes the debt will be funded.

We take no stock in this kind of political warfare. It is bad politics to endeavor to throw a cloud over our credit because of personal antagonism to a candidate. We are glad to see our securities at par again, after a slight decline a few weeks ago.

**ELECTROCUTION.**

This is the word coined for execution by electricity, and instead of saying a man has been hung it will be said hereafter he was electrocuted. The first experiment was tried last week in the State of New York on Kemmler, who was convicted last June year for the murder of a woman in Brooklyn, and after appeals to the Supreme Court of that State and finally to the Supreme Court of the United States, was thus executed.

The Legislature of that State changed the death penalty from hanging to execution by electricity, and the first appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States was based on its being an inhuman, unnatural, and consequently unconstitutional method of taking the life of a criminal.—This appeal developed a vast amount of scientific learning, but until the experiment was made it was altogether a theory. The papers have been filled with all of its horrible and sickening details, and the illustrated papers will tell with them.

He was taken from his cell at six in the morning, on the 6th instant, and placed in a chair with the wires attached to his head, back and legs, and after making a few remarks to about twenty-five witnesses, most of them scientists and newspaper reporters, the dynamo was operated and in a trice he was rendered unconscious by the powerful current turned on him. It was stopped after a few minutes, and he was found to be still breathing. Another application was then made, and in seventeen minutes from the first application to the end of the second, he was pronounced dead.

All of the circumstances attendant on it must have rendered it a shocking and horrible performance, and he is said to have undergone a thousand deaths in the time he was being prepared and while awaiting his execution. There will be a howl about it, but if these attendant horrors will serve to deter criminals, it will prove a beneficial method of execution. The experiment is a novel one.

**The South's Prosperity.**

*The Manufacturer's Record* of August 9, says:

The contrast between the West and Northwest and the South is becoming very strikingly brought out at present by the daily crop reports. In the former sections disastrous crop failures seem to be the order of the day. From Kansas comes the report of a corn crop of only 20 per cent. of last year's, while Dakota sends out dismal tales of short yields of cereals. In the South the farmers are rejoicing over the finest prospects known for many years, and the indications now point to the largest cotton crop ever raised, with prices high on account of the steadily increasing demand throughout the world for cotton goods. "Stanley," said the late Henry W. Grady, "is but an advance agent for American cotton goods;" for wherever civilization is pushed into new regions the demand for clothes necessarily follows. And so while the South keeps on extending its cotton area and enlarging its crop, prices have for several years tended upwards.

Already the movement of the cotton to the towns has commenced, and everywhere throughout the South the farmers are made glad by the prospects of an abundant harvest. This means a great surplus of money in that section which will still further help on the industrial development of the whole South. With prosperity ruling everywhere in the South, and New England and Western money crowding down to share in the profits that must follow the building up of such great industrial interests as our country have never yet seen, we may look for a season of wonderful activity from Maryland to Texas.

The past week has witnessed the organization of many enterprises following in the line of the steel works reported last week comes the contract for steel works at Middlesborough, Ky., to be built by English people at a cost of \$539,000; at Ashland, in the same State, plans are being matured for large steel works. In Alabama a \$25,000 flour mill company and a \$25,000 fertilizer factory company have been incorporated. In Arkansas a \$40,000 ice factory will be built. Virginia shows a \$50,000 hardware factory company at Basic City; \$300,000 boiler and machine works at Buena Vista; a \$200,000 rolling mill at Glasgow, to be

removed from Order; a \$1,000 wooden mill at Cotton Farm; \$500,000 company to build reduction works at Miners City; and a \$100,000 wood working company at Camper. In Texas a \$100,000 agricultural implement factory has been organized; sheet iron work and a \$50,000 painting and lithographing company. All along the line the South is growing and prospering. Activity is seen everywhere, and the fall season will, we believe, show a degree of prosperity far greater than the South has ever before enjoyed.

**Gen. McRae on Re-Appropriation.**

A good deal has been said about the failure of the General Assembly to reappropriate the Representatives to the House as required by the Constitution; and some who voted against the motion at the County Convention were inclined to elect delegates to the State Nominating Convention in September, would be time enough to elect the Congressional delegation but I do think it is due to the people, or more properly the voters of South Carolina, that Mr. Moseley, or some other well informed person, should step up to us the interests and purposes of this bill, or so much of it as affects the interests of the farmers of South Carolina. My opinion of this scheme is at this time of no importance, as it is likely to be changed upon convincing arguments being brought to bear against it, but to clear myself of a possible imputation of fine-tradition, I will say that in its present shape, I am opposed to it from the first clause to the last, as I believe it to be a most iniquitous scheme to still further ruin the poor farmers, not of a certain section, but of the entire country. It was framed and is supported by the money kings and speculators of the North and Northwest, who will under the guise of philanthropy enthrall beyond redemption (if the bill becomes a law) millions of farmers in the full share that they have so skillfully laid. To say that the bill would result injuriously to all the planters of this country would be stating the truth, as there is a certain class in every county in South Carolina, and in every county in every agricultural State in the United States, to whom this bill would be of some slight benefit, and undoubtedly (in this instance) this class of men are at this time the leaders of the mass, and will, unless some warning voice is heard and an heedful plunge those masses into a nest which it will redound not only to their own injury, but the evil consequences of which will be felt by their children's children.

The most important feature of this bill is the provision for the erection of large ware houses in which the farmer can store his crops, the government allowing him to draw upon the managers of these ware houses to an amount not exceeding eighty per cent. of the estimated value of said deposit. In consideration of this accommodation, the depositor must pay to the government through its manager, eight per cent on all money so advanced. This seems fair enough on the outside, but when we consider the fact that in this County more than eighty per cent of all crops are undelivered and mortgaged year after year, it can readily be seen what class this ultra philanthropic bill will benefit. Oh yes! this is a glorious thing for the Southern farmer. By sending representatives to Congress to support this bill, we virtually say to the Northern and Western speculators, who will have their purchasing agents in every grain growing county in the States from which we draw our food supplies, "we are willing to pay you twenty-five per cent more for corn than we now pay you, it is not high enough for us. We will pay you one dollar to a dollar and a half a bushel more, and so on through the whole catalog of farm products. We will also stamp ourselves ingrates for robbing the private life honest, faithful, vigilant and capable public servants in the hills of our National government, because they would not subscribe themselves as favoring this gigantic fraud and embezzlement into favoring a piece of legislation which the brightest minds of this country have declared to be unjust, impolitic, and likely to rebound to immediate and lasting injury to the financial prospects of a large majority of the farming classes.

I should like to go a little deeper into this subject, but have been a writer long enough to know that space is a considerable desideratum to the publisher of a newspaper, therefore I shall leave it to some one better qualified to do it justice. Let us hear from Mr. Moseley.

Respectfully,

*The State Treasury Scheme.*  
*Editor Commer. Journ.* in your report of the proceedings of the County Convention on August the 1st, you neglected to mention the fact that Mr. G. W. Moseley, an opponent of Mr. W. K. Thompson's motion to seat delegates to the Congressional Convention, stated as one of his reasons for opposing the motion, that the anti-slavery bill would be agitated in the Congressional District before that Convention met, and that Kershaw county would probably desire to send a delegate instructed to vote for an advocate of that measure.

Now, I do not take exception to the course taken by Mr. Moseley, neither did I particularly favor the motion of Mr. Thompson, as I thought that when the County Convention was convened to elect delegates to the State Nominating Convention in September, would be time enough to elect the Congressional delegation but I do think it is due to the people, or more properly the voters of South Carolina, that Mr. Moseley, or some other well informed person, should step up to us the interests and purposes of this bill, or so much of it as affects the interests of the farmers of South Carolina. My opinion of this scheme is at this time of no importance, as it is likely to be changed upon convincing arguments being brought to bear against it, but to clear myself of a possible imputation of fine-tradition, I will say that in its present shape, I am opposed to it from the first clause to the last, as I believe it to be a most iniquitous scheme to still further ruin the poor farmers, not of a certain section, but of the entire country. It was framed and is supported by the money kings and speculators of the North and Northwest, who will under the guise of philanthropy enthrall beyond redemption (if the bill becomes a law) millions of farmers in the full share that they have so skillfully laid. To say that the bill would result injuriously to all the planters of this country would be stating the truth, as there is a certain class in every county in South Carolina, and in every county in every agricultural State in the United States, to whom this bill would be of some slight benefit, and undoubtedly (in this instance) this class of men are at this time the leaders of the mass, and will, unless some warning voice is heard and an heedful plunge those masses into a nest which it will redound not only to their own injury, but the evil consequences of which will be felt by their children's children.

"Another of the family is a professor in the United States Military Academy at West Point. It is an honor to be held in place there even as a cadet. It is a still higher honor (to which many aspire and few attain) to hold a position there as an officer in the corps of instructors. The fact is, it really seems probable that the Tillmans are at least, respectable people.

"And Jim Tillman! Who can forget the thrilling incident at the Columbia fair grounds, when his noble war commander bravely pronounced him in every battle the ordinance of his regiment. This lofty tributary from so distinguished a tree would indeed be a credit to his race. Jim was a rascal.

"And what of the man who to-day, by an overwhelming decree of the white men of the State, is the Governor elect of South Carolina? English history will give him to you in Oliver Cromwell, Prussia in Frederick the Great, America in Andrew Jackson—"Old Hickory." His campaign will stand well beside the one Napoleon closed with Austerlitz—*Charleston World.*

—  
Brevities.

Mr. J. E. C. McDonald left yesterday for Rock Hill, where he expects to go into business. Louie is a first rate fellow, and we wish him success.

A. S. Douglass, Esq., of the Winslow bar, and Messrs. W. M. Blanton, J. T. Hay and Sojourner Nelson, of the Canfield bar, were in town last week on professional business.—*Rock Hill Enterprise.*

Gen. E. T. Stackhouse has announced himself as a candidate for Congress from the Sixth District, which is now represented by Hon. G. W. Dargan.

There is a general failure of the peach crop from New Jersey to Florida this year. It is the first time within the memory of the oldest inhabitant that there has been a complete failure on the South side of Tyron mountain.

The Alliance made a gallant fight against the jute trust last year. The price has fallen from 12 to 6 cents. That will make the wrapping for a bale of cotton cost about 65 cents at the gin this year. That is better than paying a dollar.

Turpits and their tops built and mixed with meal and bran is an excellent food for hogs. Though not appreciated by some farmers they are convertible into hog meat and lard, and in this way they are an available crop.—*Examiner.*

This is one time in the history of South Carolina when the farmers have determined to control things to suit themselves. They are large in the majority in the Democratic party and have a right to control it if they want to.

The effort of some of the newspapers to make it appear that Tillman is dickerling for Republican support is all nonsense. We have conversed with several negroes who heard Tillman's speech here and the last one of them declared he would not vote for him to save his life.—*Orangeburg Times and Democrat.*

W. A. Schrock,  
A friend of Grasshoppers Coming South.

Hallowell, Maine, August 5.—Between the 10 o'clock yesterday afternoon dense clouds of grasshoppers were passing between the earth and sun going South. They came from the North and were flying high.

He is a Tillman Man.

There is an ancient admirer of Capt. Tillman, and of the Tillmans who reside in Sumter. Yesterday he handed a *Word Budget* representative a clipping from the New York *Evening Post* in which Am. C. C. Cummings contributes ten pages of brilliant Congressman who magnificently stepped up to their work during the last term, who so many are dodging the heat and their duties at fashionable watering places.

Here is the clipping:

"Probably the most interesting of all the hot weather orators is the Hon. George D. Tillman, of South Carolina. His complexion, hair and eyes are as light as those of Horace Greeley. He is as honest as the other was, an equally firm in his convictions. Here the resemblance ends. Horace was as mild as a coon dove, even when denouncing fraud and hubris. Tillman rages like a lion. Hot weather suits him. He has always had plenty of it in his district, so his brother seems to be making it hot for the Palmetto aristocracy in South Carolina to day.

The discussion of the Emancipation bill drew out the honest old South Carolina member one of the most unique speeches ever delivered in the House. He understood the claim from A to Z.

He discussed it in Anglo-Saxon that would have done credit to Thomas H. Benton. He became as breezy as a pinto in a gait. Quaint similes, original metaphors, exquisite tropes, and ribald imagery were mixed up with old negro plantation sayings, all driven home with the peculiar accent characteristic of Dixie.

Tillman is probably the most convincing speaker in the House. When talking he soon loses sight of all of his surroundings and to determine all of his mind upon the point at issue. He is a perfect Massona in debate. He is as quick of perception as that old French general, an obstinate fighter, an obstinate tactician. As an orator he reminds me of the late Senator Beck, who never made a misstep."

Commenting on the article the gentleman said, in substance: "As this man is one of the brothers of Ben, he may not be possible notwithstanding all the censures of lies first at the great leader, the Tillmans are actually respectable people."

"Another of the family is a professor in the United States Military Academy at West Point. It is an honor to be held in place there even as a cadet. It is a still higher honor (to which many aspire and few attain) to hold a position there as an officer in the corps of instructors. The fact is, it really seems probable that the Tillmans are at least, respectable people.

"And Jim Tillman! Who can forget the thrilling incident at the Columbia fair grounds, when his noble war commander bravely pronounced him in every battle the ordinance of his regiment. This lofty tributary from so distinguished a tree would indeed be a credit to his race. Jim was a rascal.

"And what of the man who to-day, by an overwhelming decree of the white men of the State, is the Governor elect of South Carolina? English history will give him to you in Oliver Cromwell, Prussia in Frederick the Great, America in Andrew Jackson—"Old Hickory." His campaign will stand well beside the one Napoleon closed with Austerlitz—*Charleston World.*

—  
SCHEDULE OF THE  
Charleston, Cincinnati and Chicago  
RAIL ROAD.

In Effect March 31, 1890.  
NORTHWARD. 30 53 Mix. Pass.

Leave Charleston 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:35 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 1:45 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 2:30 p.m. 2:45 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:45 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 6:55 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 7:3